

AROUND THE J-COM

with Aaron Fetter



MOUNT SCOPUS Sand play at Scopus

ISRAELI artist Sheli Ben Nun engaged a group of year 8 students from Mount Scopus recently, speaking of her unique art practice that combines the unusual mediums of sand and shadow.

Ben Nun led a workshop that spotlighted the process of using sand to draw on illuminated surfaces, and then subsequently, creating a narrative from the imaginations.

Students were encouraged to join in the explorative and intuitive creative experience, with many finding it to be highly meditative.



OUR KITCHEN TABLE The art of giving

OUR Kitchen Table is a charitable Melbourne not-for-profit organisation that reaches out to those within the community living in crisis by creating and giving heartfelt gifts.

They assist women and children fleeing domestic violence who are currently living in safe-houses, as well as giving to the disadvantaged and homeless.

A wide array of dedicated volunteers meet weekly and work around a kitchen table to make practical and soul-nourishing items.

Our Kitchen Table founder and CEO Liz Davidson said the organisation "cares about connecting

participants, teaching a new skill, sharing acts of kindness by giving back to those in need and really it's just about showing some love".

Volunteers young and old including school groups will find, "It's a place to sit down, have a cuppa and a shmooze ... to feel safe and enjoy the company of others ... to laugh, share, get inspired and help to put a smile on the face of others."

For more information contact
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NEW ISRAEL FUND Division and Unity exhibit launches

THE streets of Israel have been transported to the cyber world, courtesy of a powerful three-week online exhibition launched by New Israel Fund's (NIF) Naomi Chazan Fellowship.

The 10-photo series titled *Division and Unity* highlights a range

of cultural, economic, local and international issues across Israel, as a platform to convey the commitment to peace and prosperity by various organisations in the region.

Curators, collectors and co-creators Adam Grodeck and Rebecca Sharp were inspired to tackle the project after partaking in a recent NIF study tour to Israel.

They are hoping the photos demonstrate a different side to Israeli society, one which they were able to experience first-hand.

"Fighting racism, building shared society, advocating for gender equality, and the rights of Bedouin and Palestinians are all critical parts of ensuring a healthy democracy and civil society in Israel", they commented. The online launch succeeds a physical showing of the photos in November last year, which was warmly received by the Jewish community.

To view *Division and Unity*, visit <https://www.nif.org.au/divisionandunity>



Bialik students hand out freshly baked challah to Emmy Monash residents.

EMMY MONASH Little things matter

EVERY Friday morning residents put on hair nets and gloves and participate in the tradition of baking challah for Shabbat.

Dough is kneaded and twisted into round challah rolls and volunteers place the rolls into ovens for baking. Moments later the distinct aroma of freshly baked challah fills the Emmy Monash corridors.

As part of the aged care facility's award-winning Bridging the Gap

program, Bialik College volunteers come and help distribute the challah to residents.

Emmy's Culture, Community and Wellbeing activities and events aim to ensure all residents live a full life: socially, emotionally, spiritually and physically.

Other activities that residents engage in are tailored exercise programs, daily walks along landscaped walking paths, relaxation and mindfulness classes and Jewish learning sessions. These are the little things that help ensure the holistic wellbeing of Emmy Monash residents.

KING DAVID SCHOOL Kinder kids remember the Anzacs

KDS's kindergarten programs are play based and the curriculum is guided by the children's curiosity and ideas.

Recently, senior kinder children chose to explore the significance of Anzac Day.